

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An optical filter is provided with a thin film having: a first laminated portion that is constructed by alternately laminating low refractive index layers that have a relatively low refractive index with high refractive index layers that have a relatively high refractive index; and in which the refractive index of the high refractive index layers gradually increases from the substrate side; a second laminated portion in which the refractive indices of the high refractive index layers are equal to or higher than the highest refractive index from among the high refractive index layers constituting the first laminated portion; and a third laminated portion in which the refractive indices of the high refractive index layers gradually decrease from the second laminated portion side. In this thin film, there is inserted a high refractive index variation layer portion, in which the refractive index of a high refractive index layer is set so as to be lower than the other two refractive index layers that are adjacent on both sides thereof via low refractive index layers.